

House Bills 4648-9 (As Introduced)

Contact: Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs

Agency: Labor & Economic Growth

Topic:	Wind Energy
Sponsor:	Representative Walker
Co-Sponsors:	Representatives Moolenaar, Booher, Meyer, Brandenburg, Casperson, Kahn, Garfield, Vander Veen, Amos, Gaffney, Tobocman, Gonzales, Nitz, Hune, Palmer (House Bill 4649) and Emmons
Committee:	House Government Operations
Date Introduced:	April 21, 2005
Date of Summary:	July 28, 2005

House Bill 4648 applies to township zoning and House Bill 4649 applies to county zoning. The bills indicate that a wind energy system shall be permitted in all zoning classifications subject to all of the following requirements: 1) system shall be built at a distance from all property lines not leased or owned by the owner of the system that is not less than the height of the system tower including the top of the blade in its vertical position, 2) minimum vertical clearance from the blade tip to the ground shall not be less than 20 feet, 3) sound created by the system shall not exceed 60 dB(A) at the closest property line of property not served by the system, 4) system shall comply with all applicable state construction and electrical codes and aviation regulations, 5) before a wind energy system is installed, the owner of the system shall notify the owner's servicing electrical supplier that the owner intends to install an interconnected wind energy generator, 6) all interconnected customer owned wind energy system generators shall comply with all applicable Michigan Public Service Commission and electric supplier interconnection requirements, and 7) owner of a system shall establish and follow a regular maintenance program. The owner of a system may apply to the township or county in which the system is located for, and the township or county may grant, a variance from the requirements. The owner of a system shall not be found to be a public or private nuisance if the system complies with the requirements notwithstanding 1) a change in ownership, 2) temporary cessation or interruption in producing electricity, and 3) new technology.